



South Coast Air Quality Management District

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT & SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE ADVISORY GROUP FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2010 MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dennis Yates, AQMD Governing Board Member, LGSBA Chairman
Greg Adams, L.A. County Sanitation District
Felipe Aguirre, Vice Mayor, City of Maywood
Paul Avila, P.B.A. & Associates
Geoffrey Blake, Metal Finishers of Southern California/All Metals
Eric Busch, Representative, South Bay Cities Council of Governments
Daniel Cunningham, Metal Finishing Association
Jacob Haik, Office of School Board Member Richard Vladovic
Maria Elena Kennedy, Kennedy Communications
Art Montez, AMA International

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ronald Loveridge, AQMD Governing Board Member, LGSBA Vice Chairman
Todd Campbell, Clean Energy
James R. Krausz, Esq., ALA Inland Counties
Angelo Logan, East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice
Kelly Moulton, Paralegal
Steve Mugg, South Orange County Representative, City of Mission Viejo

OTHERS PRESENT:

Earl Elrod, Board Member Assistant (*Yates*)
Nicole Nishimura, Board Member Assistant (*Lyou*)
Kris Flaig, City of Los Angeles/SCAP

AQMD STAFF:

Mohan Balagopalan, Sr Air Quality Engineer
Philip Crabbe, Community Relations Manager
Nancy Feldman, Principal Deputy District Counsel
Phil Fine, Ph.D., Atmospheric Measurements Manager
Anupom Ganguli, Asst. DEO/Public Advisor
Lori Langrell, Secretary
John Olvera, Principal Deputy District Counsel
Robert Pease, Program Supervisor
Greg Ushijima, AQ Engineer II
Jill Whynot, Director of Strategic Initiatives
Daniel Wong, Office Assistant

Agenda Item #1 - Call to Order/Opening Remarks

Chair Dennis Yates called the meeting to order at 11:12 a.m.

Agenda Item #2 – Approval of January 15, 2010 Meeting Minutes/Review of Follow-Up/Action Items

Chair Yates called for approval of the meeting minutes.

The January 15, 2010 meeting minutes were approved.

Action Item: Staff to provide a discussion on the Federal Transportation bill.

✓ Item to be placed on the March 2010 agenda.

Action Item: Staff to provide a discussion on Rule 1155

✓ Completed. Item included in February Agenda.

Agenda Item #3 –Rule 1155 – Particulate Matter (PM) Control Devices

Ms. Jill Whynot provided a presentation regarding proposed Rule 1155, particulate matter (PM) control devices.

Ms. Maria Elena Kennedy asked how this rule affects water treatment plants. Ms. Whynot replied that it depends on the equipment and the process. She added that this would only apply to devices that control particulate matter.

Mr. Greg Adams asked if certified visible emission readers would be required. Ms. Whynot replied that only Method 22 is required, which includes self training.

Agenda Item #4 – Proposed Rule 310 – Amnesty for Unpermitted Equipment

Mr. Robert Pease provided a presentation regarding Proposed Rule 310, amnesty for unpermitted equipment.

Mr. Art Montez asked how a business knows they need a permit. Mr. Pease replied that a new business must contact the building department for an occupancy permit and any business that has the potential to emit air pollution must get clearance from the AQMD from permit requirements. Dr. Anupom Ganguli added that clearance from the AQMD is a state law requirement, and there is a simple checklist you answer when you fill out paperwork to obtain an occupancy permit. He added that the checklist helps to determine if an AQMD permit is required.

Mr. Paul Avila asked how small of a business is being focused on in this program. Mr. Pease replied that such a source may be a small restaurant with a charbroiler, a drycleaner, or a small coating business with a small dip tank.

Mr. Jacob Haik asked if a business is not aware that they are out of compliance, is there something in the rule written to offset the violation they could face. Mr. Pease replied that all cases are not the same. Ms. Nancy Feldman added that each violation is handled on a case by case basis, and staff can work out a nominal fee or a mitigation plan to help the business owner.

Mr. Avila asked if there are exceptions for older units that are not economically feasible to remove, or when repair parts are unavailable. Ms. Feldman replied that they take these situations

on a case by case basis. She added that they may appear before the Hearing Board which could give the business owner time for financing and to obtain the permits they need. Mr. Pease added that this is why they encourage the no fault inspections through the Small Business Assistance unit.

Mr. Dan Cunningham inquired about the presentation which indicated that adoption of the proposed rule is not until March 5th which would result in only five (5) months of the program. Mr. Pease indicated the program would be retroactive, and therefore will be in effect for six months.

Mr. Adams asked if a piece of equipment is subject to a NC/NOV, and there is a second piece of equipment which is not subject to a NC/NOV, would the second piece of equipment fall under the amnesty program. Mr. Pease confirmed that it would. Mr. Adams then asked what was meant under the last presentation slide where it indicated that “sources violating Rule 201 after a permit to construct has been filed” would not be eligible for amnesty. Mr. Pease replied that if an entity files for a permit to construct and then builds equipment and operates it without a permit, it is a violation and they are not eligible for amnesty.

Agenda Item #5 – Finding from Air Quality Studies at Santa Monica Airport

Dr. Phil Fine provided a presentation regarding the findings from the air quality studies at Santa Monica Airport.

Mr. Montez asked what the emissions are along the flight paths. Dr. Fine replied that some studies that have been completed that do not show much effect, but emissions primarily include ultra fine particles and black carbon. Mr. Montez then asked if the FAA is like the railroads in that they maintain all of the control. Dr. Fine replied that the community has asked the Santa Monica Airport to limit flight traffic, but the City of Santa Monica has no authority to do so, since it falls under the jurisdiction of the FAA.

Mr. Haik asked who would purchase the buffer zone between the airport and the residences. Dr. Fine replied that the FAA considered purchasing homes in the area two years ago, but the market rate was too high.

Dr. Ganguli commented that over 15 years ago, cleaning up aircraft emissions was looked at, but the federal authorities decided not to proceed. He added that the issue is being looked at again as airplane emissions are ranked after marine vessels, locomotives and off road vehicles in terms of their magnitude. Dr. Ganguli additionally commented that the buffer zones are good for mitigating the issue, but it is not a permanent solution. He added that funding research with federal agencies to lower emissions and improve fuel quality is being looked at as well.

Mr. Avila asked who would have the cleaner air if you compare air samples at an airport like Chino which is inland, with air samples at Santa Monica. Dr. Fine replied that Santa Monica would have better air quality because the air is dirtier when it reaches the inland areas.

Mr. Adams asked if there has been direct contact with engine manufacturers, as opposed to just the FAA doing studies on aviation emissions. Dr. Ganguli replied that AQMD has not had direct contact, but he would check with our Technology Advancement office and get back to him.

Action Item: *Check with Technology Advancement regarding any direct contact with aviation engine manufacturers.*

Agenda Item #6 – Monthly Report on Small Business Assistance Activities

No comments.

Agenda Item #7 – Update on Climate Change Activities (Written Report)

Ms. Whynot provided a written report update on climate change activities.

Agenda Item #8 - Other Business

Mr. Eric Busch indicated he would like to express his appreciation and thank the AQMD Board and staff for the tree planting initiative. On March 6, 2010 the City of El Segundo will be planting 150 trees, with 350 volunteers assisting. Mr. Busch also commented on the fact that the South Bay COG will now be represented on the AQMD Board with the recent addition of Judy Mitchell. Chair Yates indicated that Ms. Mitchell will be replacing Tonia Reyes Uranga, and is set to be sworn in shortly.

Agenda Item #9 - Public Comment

None.

Agenda Item #10 - Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:24 p.m.